

# ***NEWS RELEASE***



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Anniston City Christmas Parade set for Monday, Dec. 8**

The Annual Anniston City Christmas Parade is set to jingle all the way at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 8 from 15<sup>th</sup> to Ninth streets along Noble Street in downtown Anniston.

The parade's theme is "All I Want for Christmas" and will be preceded with a special storybook reading by Santa Claus at 5:30 p.m. at the Public Library of Anniston-Calhoun County, located at 108 East 10th Street.

Jacksonville State University Athletic Director Warren Koegel will serve as the parade's grand marshal alongside Cocky the JSU mascot.

"We're looking forward to having Mr. Koegel and Cocky with us this year," said Parks & Recreation Department Program Director Angie Shockley. "It's a great way to honor him for all he's done for our community."

Chris Wright of WKLS-FM Rock 105.9 and Lt. Jon Garlick of the Calhoun County Sheriff's Office will serve as the masters of ceremonies, and will provide live coverage of the parade on the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Noble Street.

Roadways from 18<sup>th</sup> to Eighth streets along Noble Street will be blocked starting at 4 p.m. and will remain closed until the conclusion of the parade; downtown restaurants will remain open.



According to Shockley, PARD received 100 entries representing approximately 130 units for this year's parade.

Among the entries are Anniston High and Saks High school marching bands, Woodsy Owl with the U.S. Forest Service, the Center for Domestic Preparedness, Lions Club, East Alabama Shriners Cub, Donoho School Cheerleaders, and representatives from each of Anniston's city schools.

The Anniston Police Department and Anniston Fire Department will also be present.

APD will serve as the honor guard for the parade and will direct traffic. AFD will transport Santa Claus as he wraps up the parade.

"We have a record number of floats this year," Shockley said. "In 2009 we had 49 entries and we've grown to 100 entries. We thank the community for their support and for helping to grow the parade each year. Next year we would love to see more bands participate."

The parade will be streamed live at <http://www.ourtowntv.tv/>.

A rain date for the parade has been set for Thursday, Dec. 11.

#### **The City of Anniston**

Located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains in northeast Alabama, Anniston sits as the county seat for Calhoun County and a regional hub for legal, medical, and banking services. Home to the bronze-level mountain bike ride center of Coldwater Mountain, Anniston offers a wide range of recreational options such as biking the Chief Ladiga Trail or visiting the Anniston Museum of Natural History. For more information about the City of Anniston, visit [anniston.al.gov](http://anniston.al.gov).